Government. Chairman, Cochin Port Trust took up the matter with State Government and with their help the activity of illegal extortion has been curbed to a large extent. Besides, Cochin Port has also initiated measures to control the illegal activities by ensuring open and transparent system of labour booking and hiring of trailers and trucks. The labour bookings are now made through the Kerala headload Workers Welfare Board, an organization run by the Labour Department of Government of Kerala.

PF of seamen

1121. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the strong resentment prevailing among the foreign going seafarers about non-reimbursement of Rs. 100 crores of PF default by the office of the Director General of Shipping;

(b) if so, the status of Government decision to reimburse the money so that seamen get the required PF amount in time;

(c) whether Government are enquiring into the reason for the inordinate delay in taking decision in the matter and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The Government has taken a decision to recoup the entire loss of Rs. 92.78 crores of the Seamen's Provident Fund in order to protect the interests of the seafarers.

Deceleration in growth of road insfrastructure

1122. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether road sector projects are proving to be speed-breakers along the infrastructure highway, with the sector being the poorest performer among all sectors during 2006;